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FOR TRANSMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.]

FORTY-SECOND YEAR.

VOLUME LXXXVI
NUMBER 17.

LONDON: APRIL 22, 1920

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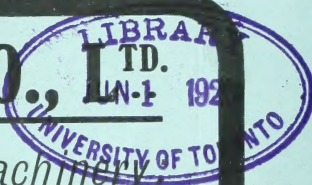
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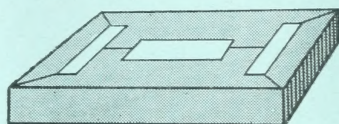
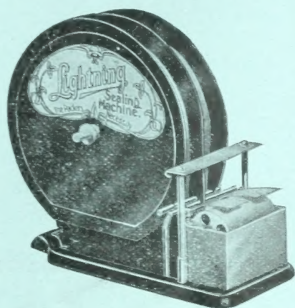
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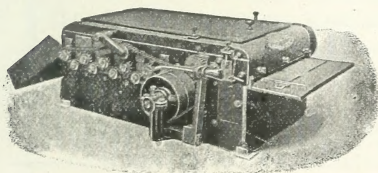
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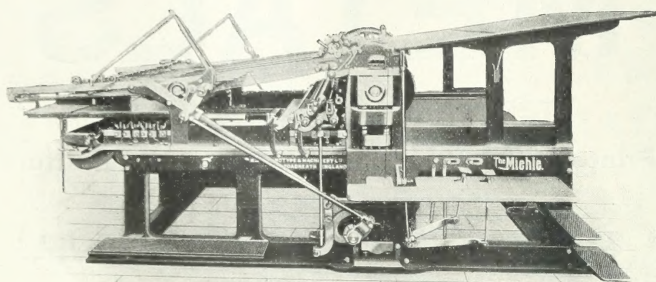
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What Constitutes Good Printing?

The Question Discussed in Interesting
Fashion by the Royal Society of Arts.

As a member of the council of the Design and Industries' Association, Mr. Joseph Thorpe, in lecturing, on Wednesday, before the Royal Society of Arts on "The Fundamental Basis of Good Printing," applied to the art of printing the thesis that in all the practical or applied arts the aesthetic and the practical aspects cannot be separated, that the ultimate test of good craftsmanship is "fitness-for-purpose."

This general principle Mr. Thorpe credited to William Morris, to whom, and the band of enthusiasts that gathered round him, he attributed most of the improvement made in printing during the last thirty years. Professor Lethaby, he said, is probably the finest spokesman we have in this generation of the principles that Morris spoke for, and the lecturer quoted with strong approval Professor Lethaby's dictum: "Art is not a special sauce applied to ordinary cooking. It's the cooking itself if it is good."

The general idea of art in the deplorable era which we refer to as the Victorian, said Mr. Thorpe, was that art is something you stick on to something that is already made and does not look pretty enough. The Forth Bridge, depending for its appearance on the due balance of thrusts and tensions in the material chosen (steel) is a truer and therefore more beautiful thing than the Tower Bridge, which was consciously "decorated" to make it "artistic." Motor cars, battleships, aeroplanes, weapons, tools, implements of sport—these develop their own form of beauty (or, not to claim too much, avoid falseness which is ugliness) by sticking to the lines of fitness-for-purpose.

Good printing, then, said the lecturer, is primarily printing that does its job. Legi-

bility is its first requirement. Persuasiveness one might state is its second—to include comeliness and appropriateness. That is to say, a printed thing must first be able to be read—and read easily, pleasantly; therefore we add the "persuasiveness" of comely, appropriate design. Tradesmen selling goods by advertisements have realised this truth. But if you consider the matter, nearly all printing is advertisement in the sense that it announces something which the announcer wants read. Refusal to understand this abject platitude accounts for much squalid and careless printing. If I am told that good printing is expensive the general lines of my answer are: first, that bad printing that isn't read is dear and wasteful at any price; second, that a good deal of what goes to make good printing is not a question of cost at all, but of knowledge and care. Legibility, then, is our first desideratum.

Requirements of Type Faces.

We must begin with a legible letter. We want to find the most legible type of letter within the limits of the forms of the traditional alphabet—in our case the Roman capitals and small letters with their Italic. And here we must distinguish between the *absolutely* most legible and the *practically* most legible. It is obvious that if we were designing an ideal alphabet to-day—an absurd supposition anyway, as all practical arts are gradual evolutions in which tradition plays a greater part than originality—we should avoid such similarities as are involved in these groups: cgoqd; PRB; EFB; eco; il; mnu; bh. There are too many coincidental parts of these letters to ensure perfect legibility. But the alphabet as we have it is an

established code. The difficulties of introducing an ideal letter are now insuperable—though we have got rid of the long s—f. We have to keep the essential forms as we now have them; and we don't want "original" or "fancy" letters to interfere with the rapid-signalling of the sound which is the function of a letter. A triumphantly beautiful form of Roman capital survives in the incised inscriptions of the Trajan column. As to the smaller or lowercase letters, the art of printing came happily at a time when the art of writing was at a noble, not a debased, period, and the early printers had the most superb models both for their letters and for the arrangement of their books.

Displaying a sheet of lettering which, he said, was a brush version by Eric Gill, of Johnson's pen lettering, the lecturer suggested that this was a style of face that could hardly be bettered.

It is extremely comforting, said Mr. Thorpe, to those of us who prefer the old-style and old-face letter, with its free drawing, its broader forms, and, as we judge, better distribution of thick and thin, to the "modern" face, with its fine hair lines, its too starkly contrasted thick and thins, its tendency to compression, its mechanical precision, to know that the old style and old face is demonstrably by laboratory tests the more legible. A notable gain in legibility, readily appreciable by even the un instructed eye, is in the old-face figures, with their ascenders and descenders 123456789 as contrasted with 123456789, where particularly the 3 and 8, and often the 3, 8, and 9, are easily misread, especially in small sizes, or if at all battered or weak in impression.

Design in Compositors' Work.

Going on to speak of the placing of print on paper, Mr. Thorpe remarked that a common fault of compositors is to think in metal instead of in the printed effect. They must learn, he said, to think in the printed effect entirely. He pointed out that a large initial O, if set with its left edge mathematically aligned with the edge of the lines of text below it, will appear to the eye as if slightly indented. For this reason it should be set so as to project slightly into the margin. Little distinctions of this sort, he said, make *fine* printing as contrasted with *good* printing.

Referring next to the subject of margins, the lecturer pointed out that the design of a printed page is in simplest essence the arranging of a panel of black (or, in fact, grey) on a white (or light) paper. The white spaces left—margins, etc.—are an essential factor of legibility, as they are an essential part of the design. Margins equal and sufficient (that is sufficient to rest the eye) all round would serve our fitness-for-purpose test, but to achieve comeliness, we, if we are wise, so arrange our panel that our tail (foot or bottom) margin is appreciably greater than the others. If we are designing a book we assume the double opening of two pages to be the unit of design, and arrange our double page so that the head margin is smaller than the

middle (or gutter) and two fore-edge (side) margins (these three are equal); the tail margin we make largest of all. Let us accept this standard from the finest practice, and then seek practical reasons for it. First, if a panel be so put on the page that head and tail margins are equal, it does, in fact, by an optical illusion, look as if the tail margin were smaller. Secondly, the book is held by the thumbs, by the tail margin. We need, then, thumb-room. There is probably also some demand of the eye derived from a common principle in architecture that the building needs a sufficient "base" to look (and generally to be) right.

Amplitude of margins is a matter for individual decision, depending on size and weight of type, limitations, etc. The ample wide margins of the earlier printed books were possibly designed to admit of annotations by the reader, according to the practice of the period. If so, they might reasonably be reduced in modern days. In this connection the lecturer referred scathingly to books published in two editions, ordinary and *de luxe*, "*de luxe*" merely meaning that the edition has over-ample margins surrounding the same-sized panel of type. This, he said, is not "art" but folly or pretentiousness—giving us a small oasis of dwarfed type in a waste of white paper.

Columns Generally Too Wide.

Mr. Thorpe next emphasised the importance of rightly determining the length of line in proportion to the size of type. Lines, he said, must not be so long that the eye needs a deliberate effort to pick up the beginning of each line, an effort which is increased as the size of type decreases. Another thing that accounts for a great deal of eye-strain is the fact that, the plane of a page being flat, the eye is theoretically in perfect focus (if the reader keeps his head steady) only at one point of the line (say the centre), and is at all other points of the line out of focus to a greater or less degree according as the line is longer or shorter. The lecturer thought $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. is quite long enough for 14-point type; $4\frac{1}{4}$ for 12-point; $3\frac{1}{2}$ for 11-point; $3\frac{1}{4}$ for 10-point; $2\frac{1}{2}$ for 8-point. These measurements, however, he admitted to be approximate, empirical, and perhaps a little arbitrary, it being a very common thing to see them almost doubled. In this connection Mr. Thorpe put in a strong plea, on both æsthetic and practical (including economical) grounds, for the revival of the double-column page. Almost every other book, he said, has its columns too wide. He believed a novel could be produced very excellently in small quarto instead of octavo, to the benefit of everybody.

White Space and Ornament.

The use of ornament, said the lecturer, needs careful restraint. When in doubt omit. When not in doubt try to get in doubt. As a first step to right use of ornament cultivate an ascetic severity. Some printers, he said, when they see a nice white space, seem to think it is a sort of allotment into which they must

plant some deplorable bits of "ornament," rules, etc. He suggested that rules between articles in magazines, etc., could often be advantageously dispensed with. A clear white space, he thought, was more effective as a separator than a similar space with a rule inserted in it to make it grey.

In conclusion Mr. Thorpe paid a tribute to the services to printing of Sir Herbert Morgan when with Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son. He emphasised the value of the wise entrepreneur who, without personal skill in printing, is capable of appreciating and utilising the skill of others. He deplored the fact that the Morris revival had to come back to us *via* America and Germany before it was taken up in this country. He mentioned that a type designed by an English master of lettering was refused by every typefounder in England, was later taken up by a German typefounder and then resold to England by the Germans. He pleaded for a more progressive spirit amongst English printers and typefounders. It was not more immoral, he believed, to lie or steal than it was to make an unlovely thing where it was possible to make a beautiful one. (Applause.)

THE DISCUSSION.

Sir Herbert Morgan, who was in the chair, spoke appreciatively of the views set forth by Mr. Thorpe, but referred to the difficulties in practice of carrying out the ideals indicated. Many people, he said, would think that fitness for the purpose as regards saleability and compelling attention would be best attained by departing from some of the principles advocated.

Mr. J. R. Riddell (Principal, St. Bride Institute), expressed regret that the lecturer had not confined himself more exclusively to the subject of printing. While he approved of the lecturer's phrase "fitness-for-purpose," he emphasised the practical difficulty of applying the principle. He said, it is the man who pays the bill, who calls the tune, and really it is the customer who wants educating to the "fitness-for-purpose." Whereas Mr. Thorpe had humbly suggested that some of Morris's printing was open to criticism, Mr. Riddell went so far as to say that "Morris put out some work that was an abomination." He ridiculed the claim of certain extreme Morrisians that first-class book-work could be done only by hand composition and on a hand press. He made reference to a book he had himself produced by mechanical composition and on a fast press. It had received the unstinted praise of one of these Morrisians until the fact was learned that the book had not been set up by hand! He strongly deprecated the practice of some educational institutions which taught that there was one particular style that must be followed to the exclusion of all others. Referring to the question of margins, he mentioned that a further advantage of large margins was that they facilitated cutting down and trimming, so that rebinding could be effected without losing the pleasing proportions of the page.

Miss Dean Butcher deplored the fact that (as Professor Adamson, she said, has admitted

in his book on "The Practice of Education") the teaching of English reading is not an educative process. This, she asserted, is because English is not printed in an educative type. She advocated the adoption of "Orthotype" print—employing a modified Roman character which, without alteration of current spelling, indicates correct pronunciation and accentuation.

Mr. Gaster urged the use of matt paper to minimise the eyestrain so largely prevalent now, owing to the reflective qualities of the glazed papers commonly used. He said the question of illustration on matt paper was not insuperable.

Mr. Thorpe having briefly replied to some of the points raised, the meeting closed with a very hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer, the vote being carried with acclamation.

Costing Campaign in Nottingham.

On Wednesday evening, April 14th, at Nottingham, a remarkably successful meeting of printers was held under the chairmanship of Mr. E. H. Lee (President of the local Master Printers' Association), who, in his remarks, deprecated any revival of price-cutting, and warned the audience of the danger of such a bad practice. Close on 80 members of the craft were present.

Mr. R. A. Austen-Leigh (President of the London Association) gave an historical account and explained the principles of the Federation System.

Mr. A. Williamson, F.C.W.A. (Federation Costing Secretary), emphasised the importance and the need of a clearly defined and uniform system, and urged the adoption of the Federation System.

Mr. Medcalf (Assistant Costing Secretary) hoped the meeting would result in many firms calling for his services.

Mr. King (Secretary, Midland Alliance), pointed out the seriousness of the present-day conditions and the necessity of every printer putting his business on a basis that would stand examination and produce satisfactory results.

Mr. James Forman (the organiser of the meeting, and to whose initiative and energy its success was due) said he would not be satisfied until Nottingham was 100 per cent. with regard to costing on Federation lines. He suggested that an emblem might be designed for the use of firms who were working the system, so that the public might know where to find printers who knew their exact costs, who were able to deal with the question of profit on equitable lines, and who could prove that they were making a square deal.

The results of the meeting were remarkably good—thirty firms asked for an installation or for the secretary to call and give a fuller explanation of the system, and seven gave in their names for membership. There were printers present from Mansfield, Derby, Netherfield, and other adjacent towns.

Printing Union Relationships.

Scottish Bone of Contention.

A dispute has arisen among the trade unions in the printing industry as a result of the decision of the Scottish Typographical Association to organise a special auxiliary section for workers in the trade who are at present unorganised—says the Labour correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*. The National Printing and Kindred Trades Federation has recorded its objection to this decision, on the ground that there are already unions in the industry for which all classes of workers are eligible. The Scottish Typographical Association, however, has decided to persist in its intention, stating that it has no intention of taking members from other unions, but that they do not consider that the other unions adequately cover the ground.

This is the second dispute of the kind that has occurred in the printing industry during the last few years. The previous dispute, which arose out of the decision of the National Union of Bookbinders to organise a special women's section, resulted in the severance of the bookbinders from the National Federation, owing to the claim of the National Union of Printing and Paper Workers and the National Society of Printers' Assistants that they had been organising women in binderies before the bookbinders entered the field. This dispute is still unsettled, and it is to be feared that the new dispute may result in a further division in the ranks of the operatives.

It is true that amalgamation of the unions concerned might solve the problem; but, although negotiations with this object have recently been in progress, there are few signs that they are likely to succeed. Sixteen unions have declared in favour of the general principle of amalgamation; but out of twelve which were represented at a recent conference on the question, only two, the Typographical Association and the Scottish Typographical Association, voted in favour of complete amalgamation in preference to the scheme of closer federation which is being put forward.

Printing in France.

Following the unfortunate accidental death, in January, 1918, of M. Georges Lepreux, Edouard Champion, son of the late Honoré Champion, Imprimeur du Roi, is carrying to completion Lepreux's "Gallia Typographica," a work that when finished will be a complete record and chronicle of printing in France, from the beginning down to the French Revolution. It contains a chronological record of all printers, in whatever city or town, and biographies of the greater printers, based on the official documents.

Stationery Office Expenses.

Published figures relating to the expenses of the Stationery Office show that there is a net decrease of £436,338 on a total expenditure of £5,280,442. This compares with £1,055,708 for 1913-14.

Printing for Public Departments has increased from £360,000 to £1,215,000. This is partly due to the demands of new departments. For example, the Ministry of Munitions estimates an expenditure on stationery and printing nearly double that of the Foreign Office although the latter has made an appreciable advance on the scale thought to be adequate before the war. The Ministry of Food thinks that it will need nearly half as much again as the Colonial Office, while the Ministry of Transport wants nearly double as much as the Home Office. The entry which in the Estimates for 1914-15 stood as £392,000 under the heading "Paper for Public Departments" has now become £2,200,000 in spite of a reduction on last year of £1,000,000.

During the coming year it is intended to establish printing works at an expenditure of nearly £500,000. This involves an important departure, which has been taken at a time when there is a Select Committee devoting "special attention to the question of waste in connection with the printing of Parliamentary and other Government publications," who have promised to make a report on the subject.



"PHOTOGRAPHY AND ITS APPLICATIONS," by William Gamble, F.R.P.S. London: Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons, Ltd. Price 2s. 6d. net.

Anyone seeking an inexpensive handbook which will give him in brief compass and in non-technical language an outline of the principles and practice of the art of photography, can be safely recommended to obtain a copy of this volume, which has just been issued in Messrs. Pitman's admirable series of manuals of "Common Commodities and Industries." That the title-page bears the name of Mr. Gamble, the renowned editor of "The Process Year Book," leads the well-informed reader to expect a book replete with reliable and up-to-date information on matters photographic, and in this expectation he will not be disappointed. It should be added, however, that the volume is not put forward for the advanced student, nor for the practitioner of the art, but is intended merely to provide the general reader with an introduction to photography. A useful outline of photo-mechanical processes for the production of printing surfaces is given in a 12-page chapter devoted to that special section of photographic work.

Printers' Managers and Overseers ASSOCIATION.

MANCHESTER & DISTRICT CENTRE.

At the April meeting held at the Old Swan Restaurant, Mr. George Hamilton Rider, composing-room overseer, with Mr. W. E. Clegg, was admitted to membership.

Afterwards, Mr. F. E. Liddiard delivered a lecture on Paper, Process Engraving, Printers' Ink, Modern Appliances, etc. In his remarks he explained the cause of stretch and contraction in paper, and the various remedies to adopt, and also suggested the classes of paper to use for different publications, etc. He described the half-tone, line, and tri-colour plate methods of etching; the component parts of printing inks, varnishes, dyes, carbons, mixing of colours, ink reducers, etc.

Amongst the illustrations thrown upon the screen by Mr. W. P. Dalby were those of the linotype, the monotype, case-room fittings and tools, flat-bed and rotary machines for magazines, newspapers, and photogravure, etc.

Mr. H. Skinner, general secretary of the Typographical Association, and several other officials were present, and they took part in an interesting debate which followed the lecture.

Both Mr. Liddiard and Mr. Dalby were thanked for their services during the evening.

WEE MAC.

New British Patents.

Applications.

- Barry Press, Dubery, G. A., and Tomlinson, G. R. Post cards. 9,973.
 Corkett, F. T., Pictorial Machinery, Ltd., and Smith, J. H. W. Means for photographically preparing litho stone. 10,106.
 Drury, G. L. Loose-leaf binders, etc. 9,922.
 Maynew, R. Books, etc. 10,051, 10,052.
 Osborne, M. C. Envelopes, bags, etc. 9,969.
 Pictorial Machinery, Ltd., and Smith, J. H. W. Intaglio, etc., printing machines. 10,032.
 Smith, E. W. Web printing machines. 10,034.
 Sugimoto, K. Type-casting machines. 9,674.
 Swift, G. W. Machine for producing blanks of cardboard, etc., for manufacture of boxes. 9,745.
 Wilson, F. K. Loose-leaf binder. 9,622.

**COMPLETE SPECIFICATIONS OPEN TO
PUBLIC INSPECTION BEFORE
ACCEPTANCE.**

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- Munroe, T. B. Reinforced fibre board material, and process of producing same. 141,013

Bookbinders' Overseers.

Annual Dinner at the Connaught Rooms

The annual dinner of the Printing, Book-binding and Kindred Trades Overseers' Association took place on Saturday night at the Connaught Rooms, and the event created another red-letter day in the annals of the Association. This function is judged as one of the most important among the Association's activities during the twelve months, and Saturday's re-union served its purpose admirably in bringing together old and new members, enabling them to engage in social intercourse round the festive board. The Association has now been in existence sixteen years. During that time useful work has been accomplished, and to-day it finds itself in a good position financially, with a rapidly increasing membership. The dinner this year was well attended, nearly 100 ladies and gentlemen being present, and the chair was occupied by the president (Mr. A. J. Daines), who was supported by the vice-president (Mr. A. W. Hunt). Among those present were :- Mr. E. W. Whittle (gen. sec., P. M. and O. A.), and Mrs. Whittle, Messrs. W. Alleston, H. Budd, J. E. Dixon, J. Fleming, W. H. Hillman, T. Hunt, G. A. Rutherford, A. W. Sandilands, J. Walker, A. H. Willmott, and G. A. Eden (gen. secretary).

After complete justice had been done to the excellent things provided and the toast of "The King" duly honoured, the president submitted that of

"The Association."

Mr. Daines said it gave him very great pleasure indeed to talk about the Association. At one time it was small and insignificant, but to-day it was a growing and flourishing body. Last year they made more members proportionately than in any previous year. There was a time when it was difficult to get members, but to-day there was a rush from overseers enquiring about membership. During the past year their meetings had been marked by a decided educational character. Only last Tuesday they had had Mr. A. Williamson to lecture to them at their monthly meeting, and to all the gentlemen who had helped them by their lectures he expressed on behalf of the Association their indebtedness. (Applause.) Their Association to-day was well recognised by the printing world. Among other things they were represented on the district trades council, and their overtures with the London master printers had been courteously received. Their Association was one where the true ideals of fellowship existed in abundance, and there was no reason, concluded Mr. Daines, why it should not become one of the guiding and shining lights of the printing world in the future. (Applause.)

The toast was received with enthusiasm.

President and Vice-President.

The toast of the "President and Vice-President" was submitted by Mr. J. Walker, who said that the President was a man whose personal charm fitted him for the reins of government. They all recognised his educational ability, and he was sure they all had learned something from Mr. Daines through attending their monthly meetings. He was sure the prosperity of the Association was due largely to the President's connection with it, and he thought he would not be wrong in saying that Mr. Daines' presidency of the Association would constitute quite a landmark in their history. With regard to Mr. Hunt, he would say that he was modestly personified. He was the right man in the right place, and when the time came he would make a very dignified chairman, eminently fitted to carry on the affairs of the Association with success. Mr. Hunt was one of the oldest members of the Association. He had been quite content to plod along, and he was sure he was the right man to take over the mantle of Mr. Daines when the time came. (Applause.)

The toast was drunk with musical honours.

The President, in reply, said he would never forget the enthusiastic manner in which the company had received his name. (Applause.)

The Vice-President expressed thanks, and said the way his name had been honoured would be an incentive to him to still further the interests of the Association. (Applause.)

"The Visitors."

The toast of "The Visitors"—more especially the ladies—was again submitted in felicitous terms by Mr. J. E. Dixon. He said the ladies present would have an opportunity of seeing what kind of men their husbands met on the first Tuesday in each month, and he could imagine after that night, when the husband arrived home a bit late, the wife would say: "Ah! well, they were not such a bad lot of fellows." (Laughter.) The ladies, said Mr. Dixon, by their presence helped to make the annual dinner the success it was, and he thanked them heartily. Among the visitors he was pleased to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Whittle. The Association of which Mr. Whittle was the general secretary had, proceeded Mr. Dixon, a big future before it. He (Mr. Dixon) hoped the time would come when they would work together as one association, and he hoped Mr. Whittle would endeavour to achieve that consummation for the benefit of the printing trade overseers in general. The two associations should stand not one behind the other, but side by side. "United we stand; divided we must fall." (Cheers.)

The toast was enthusiastically received.

Mr. Whittle, in responding, said he warmly appreciated the kind manner in which the toast with which his name had been associated had been honoured. With reference to the salaries question, he said it was not a matter of apologising for one meeting a month, but for five nights a week. (Laughter.) Most overseers, said Mr. Whittle, could see the benefits accruing from federation. The

Scottish associations had taught them a lesson in that matter, they having succeeded in getting an all-round advance for every overseer in the printing trade. (Cheers.)

During the evening an excellent musical programme was gone through, contributed to by the following artistes:—Miss Phyllis Wright and Miss Madge Macklin; Messrs. Fred Milner, Ernest Benson, Fred Willis, Percy Stanhope, and Gilbert Chester (accompanist.)

Taken all round, the dinner was a great success, and reflected credit on the three stewards, Messrs. G. A. Eden, J. Fleming, and A. G. Aves.

Popular Manager Honoured.

A pleasing little function took place the other day at the offices of Messrs. Richard Clay and Sons on the occasion of the resignation, after more than fifteen years' service, of Mr. J. E. Dixon. Mr. Dixon had been in charge of the binding and warehouse departments for some considerable time, and was held in the very highest esteem by all sections of the firm. Mr. Dixon, who is relinquishing his duties to take over a similar appointment with the Amalgamated Press, was made the recipient of many valuable gifts, among which were: Fellow overseers—English cut glass tanzalus, with silver inscription plate; fellow workers—marble clock, with inscription plate and bronzes, dressing case, shaving set; ladies of the counting-house—wallet, tobacco pouch; the firm—cheque.

German Free Exports.

Among goods which can be exported from Germany without export licence (as specified in a list compiled on February 28th and revised in accordance with amending proclamations published from time to time up to March 27th) are: Printed articles for business purposes; bookbinders' cloth, smooth or pressed; daily newspapers; periodicals exported through the medium of the publishers' dispatch offices; gold leaf, beaten by hand, alloyed (so-called book gold) in the form of books; printing machinery; machines for bookbinding; mechanical presses for books, printing, lithography, photo-engraving, plate printing and other book printing machines.

**IMPERIAL
PRINTING
INKS.**

Trade Notes.

WORTHING Corporation reports that prices for printing are now 90 per cent. over those ruling before the war.

MR. EDWARD TATTERSALL HAWKES, editor of the *Shields Daily Gazette*, died on Sunday night, after an illness lasting several weeks.

This month has seen the appearance of No. 1, Vol. 1 of the *Alliance Record*, the official organ (monthly, 2d.), of the Printing Trades Alliance.

MR. JOSEPH VICKERMAN, of Bury, has died at the age of 51 years. The deceased was a member of the firm of Messrs. Charles Vickerman and Sons, printers, of Bury.

The officials of the National Union of Printing and Paper Workers are now in possession of their new offices at 44, Blackfriars-road, just opposite the old premises.

TO SAVE money, the Hammersmith Council is recommended by its finance committee to have its agenda typed instead of printed. Fulham recently adopted this course.

THE Federative Labour Committee are expected to confer with the London Printing and Kindred Trades Federation next week on the question of the new advance which has been asked for.

IN spite of the great efforts which are being made to increase the output of paper and pulp, the opinion is held by authorities that several years will elapse before the supply of paper overtakes the demand, if it ever does.

The next meeting of the Central Districts Branch of the London Master Printers' Association will take the form of a conversation on April 29th, at St. Bride's Institute. "Betterment as an aid to Production" will be discussed.

It is announced that the *Glasgow Herald* and its associated newspapers, owned by a private company, are to be taken over by a company with a capital of £420,000, in ordinary shares, of which half will be offered to the public, the rest being retained by the vendors.

TO ENABLE the Association to retain in full benefit ex-soldier and sailor members and their families, the Printers' Medical Aid and Sanatoria Association is to hold a Grand Matinée Concert at the Kingsway Hall, Kingsway, London, W.C., next Saturday, April 24th, at 2 p.m. Particulars and tickets (1s., 2s., 3s.), from Mr. A. O'Connor, 30, Fleet-street, London, E.C.4.

INSTRUCTION IN COSTING.—St. Bride Foundation Printing School has again arranged to hold a special Summer Term Costing Class on Wednesday evenings during May and June. This class is specially formed for employers and others holding executive positions in the printing trade who prefer a short course. The first class is held on Wednesday, May 5th, at 6 p.m. Those desirous of enrolling should make early application to the Principal.

ONLY one book may be bought at a time in Russia owing to the shortage of paper.

CONSIDERABLE damage has been done by fire at the premises of Charles Porter and Co., wholesale stationers and printers, 123-125, Old Lodge-road, Belfast.

THERE is threat of trouble in certain paper mills in Scotland over the question of non-union labour, and it is stated that in one case notices have been tendered.

THE death occurred on the 7th inst., at Blackheath, of Mr. William George Newton, I.S.O., late Deputy Controller H.M. Stationery Office. He was 61 years of age.

MR. A. S. JOHNS, paper merchant, owing to the extension of his business, has been obliged to take larger offices, and he has therefore removed from 85, Fleet-street to Thanet House, 231-232, Strand, London, W.C.

THE female members of the National Union of Printing and Paper Workers employed by Messrs. W. H. Hilton and Co., printers' speciality makers, John-street, Rochdale, have come out on strike for increased wages.

MR. JOHN HUNTER, who has lately resigned his position as foreman over the enamelling department at the St. Anne's Board Mill, has been appointed works manager at the Creech St. Michael Paper Mills, Taunton (Messrs. R. Somerville and Co., Ltd.). With his experience in other mills, Mr. Hunter should render good service in his new position.

"C. PENNY LONDON" WATERMARK.—A papermaking correspondent in Australia has sent us a leaf from an old account book bearing the watermark "C. Penny London," and would like some information regarding it. The account book has been for over 70 years in the possession of a gentleman who went to Australia in 1852, and it originally belonged to a medical man in the West of England who died 100 years ago. Our correspondent supposes that C. Penny was a London stationer and bookbinder of early last century.

Football Coupons.

Stoneclough Printer Fined for Lack of Imprint.

For printing football betting coupons without having his name and usual place of abode thereon, Leonard McCordell, printer and stationer, 15, Market-street, Stoneclough (formerly of Radcliffe), was fined £2 10s. in each of five cases by the Bolton County Magistrates on Thursday. Mr. A. F. Greenhalgh prosecuted on behalf of the Chief Constable of Lancashire, and explained that the summonses were taken under the Newspaper, Printers and Reading-rooms Repeal Act, 1869, which held that a person shall print upon any paper meant to be published or dispersed his name and usual place of abode.



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THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1920.

Current Topics.

Imaginary Profits.

PROBABLY a good deal could be done for the allaying of industrial unrest if employers would find means for reducing the amount of secrecy commonly maintained as to the actual costs and profits of their businesses. It came as a shock to most, if not all, composing-room proprietors to learn that, out of 48 hours of every compositor's time, only about 32 were productive, *i.e.*, represented chargeable time. And if the proprietor—to whom, naturally, costs have a habit of looking big, and profits small—is sometimes astonished at the proportion of unproductive to productive work done on his premises, how much more likely is it that incorrect ideas on the subject of profits will be held by the employee, who very often ignores large and obvious expenses in imagining the magnitude of his employer's income. The *American Printer* was telling recently of an employing printer who went into his press-room, and asked one of the pressmen what the press averaged in impres-

sions. "I should think fully fifteen hundred an hour," came the reply with confidence. The employer, whose hobby is the compiling of statistics, reached in his pocket for his record book, and showed the astonished pressman that the average number of impressions for a year was about eight hundred. This workman, like many others, had in mind the actual running speed of the press. There is no doubt that a good deal of the discontent gathering round the subject of the unfair distribution of the rewards of industry is based upon profits that are quite imaginary. Every step that is made towards a frank understanding between employer and employed in this matter of costs and profits is a step towards industrial peace.

* * *

The Budget.

PRINTERS, like all other tradesmen—and perhaps more than a good many others—will find that the new taxation saddles them with no light burden, especially in view of the very high costs and charges which hamper the onward march of the industry to-day. Doubtless those firms to whom the excess profits tax applies will complain of the policy which seems so lacking in a reasonable and dependable principle that it now reimposes a yoke which so lately, with a show of justice, was lifted from their shoulders. Several other items in the Budget will hit the printer hard, though not harder than they will his average neighbour. But the postage increases are a matter in which the printer will probably find himself rather specially victimised, and of which the justice and the expediency will probably be very severely debated.

* * *

Paper Costs.

DURING the last few days prices of the commoner papers have taken another leap, and according to good advice, there is every prospect of a further advance within the next month or so. Prices now ruling in the wholesale houses average on the following scale:—Common printings, 10d. to 1s. per lb.; fine and esparto printings, 1s. lb.; common E.S. writings, 11d. to 1s. 1d.; fine and esparto writings, 1s. to 1s. 3d. lb.; common English banks, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 3d. lb.; Swedish banks, 1s. 2d. lb.; ordinary account book papers, 1s. lb.; watermarked T.S. azure-laid, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. lb.; watermarked T.S. banks, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d. per lb.; tinted banks, 1s. 3d. lb.; greaseproofs (unbleached) 11d. lb.; bleached 1s. 1d. to 1s. 3d. lb.; dark brown wrappings, £35 ton; English krafts, £75 to £80 ton;

Swedish kraft, £85 ton. Dutch strawboards are £26 10s. per ton for 8 to 24 oz.; unlined boards, with usual extras, and British boards, £18 to £23 10s. per ton, according to gauge and quality. Grey boards are quoted £35 per ton, friction glazed box-boards, £40 per ton; best millboards, £45 per ton.

* * *

Wholesale Stationers.

It is rumoured that the wholesale paper houses are to make an effort to restrict or persuade mills against accepting orders direct from users except in the case of extremely big buyers. The wholesalers are putting themselves in for something which may come back to them. There are very few wholesale stationers immune from the habit of selling to printers' customers. As a matter of fact, it has been a common complaint of the printer for years that the wholesaler was not above competing with him for direct sales. Now the wholesaler is said to be anxious to put the mills right on the same score. What of the mills who are also wholesalers on their own behalf? What of the agents who can sell more cheaply than the wholesaler, where big lots are concerned? The function of the paper merchant is to distribute paper to users whose orders do not run into special makings and to secure the big orders where he can by virtue of special terms at the mill, provided the volume of business placed warrants concessions. But to prevent mills from accepting orders from users large enough to provide special makings is something which might be attempted but not done. A better thing would be to cut the big profits a little and go in for healthy competition—as they will do when more foreign paper becomes available.

Personal.

MR. A. F. BLADES, President of the Federation of Master Printers, continues to fulfil a large number of engagements on behalf of his organisation. He presided on Tuesday, last week, at the meeting of the Industrial Council of the Printing and Allied Trades, when the Unemployment Committee's report in regard to insurance was under consideration. The matter was of such importance, however, that only a part of the subject was dealt with, and the meeting was adjourned until next Wednesday, when the members will meet at the Ministry of Labour, Montagu House, with Mr. Blades in the chair.

MR. BLADES, Mr. Humphreys, Mr. A. E. Goodwin, and Mr. Little (Labour Secretary)

attended the regrading conference at Manchester, when the districts in the Lancashire and Cheshire area were considered.

MR. BLADES and Mr. Goodwin were present on Monday night at a dinner of the Birmingham Master Printers' Association, in the course of which a presentation was made to Mr. Reginald Hudson, president of the local association, in recognition of his work on behalf of the craft.

It has been resolved by the Council of the Federation of Master Printers to recognise the work of Mr. A. F. Blades during his two years' presidency.

WE are glad to learn that Mr. Reginald J. Lake is making a good recovery from the injuries he sustained in a motor accident recently.

MR. W. HAROLD WALBROOK (Messrs. Walbrook and Co., Ltd.), has had a serious breakdown in health, but he is now recuperating for three weeks in the country.

MR. H. BASIL CAHUSAC, at the staff meeting of the Solicitors' Law Stationery Society, held at the Memorial Hall, on Monday, was the recipient of a handsome silver tea service with an album containing the signatures of every member of the staff from every branch of the Society. The presentation—which took Mr. Cahusac completely by surprise—was made as an expression of the esteem of the staff and their congratulations upon Mr. Cahusac's being made managing director of the Society. A report of the meeting is unavoidably held over till next week.

ALDERMAN SIR T. VANSITTART BOWATER, P.G.W., was unanimously re-elected treasurer of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys at a Quarterly Court of the Governors.

THE marriage arranged between Captain John Ross, Inniskilling Fusiliers, and Miss Phyllis E. Grant, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Grant, of Ballyclare, Ireland, will take place in London on April 27th.

MR. JOHN SHERRARD, a director of Messrs. Paul Sabel and Co., is leaving at the end of the week on another business visit to Scandinavian mills.

MR. F. A. MARSDEN, of the Anglo-Norse Paper Agencies, Ltd., has left for a business visit to Norway and Sweden.

MR. J. F. WILSON, for many years with Messrs. Machin and Kingsley, has now joined the staff of Messrs. P. N. Risky and Co., Ltd., paper and board merchants and importers, Kings Arms Wharf, London.

Commercial Intelligence.

CURRENT SHARE PRICES.

Amalgamated Press, 6½, 6½, Pref., 14s. 6d.; Associated Newspapers, 7 p.c. Cum., 17s. 6d., 17s. 3d., Pref., 13s. 9d., 14s. 1½d.; R. W. Crabtree and Sons, 8 p.c. Cum. Part. Pref., 10s. 6d., 8s.; *Country Life*, Pref., 11s. 6d.; J. Dickinson, 34s. 3d., 34s.; *Financial News*, 11s. 3d., Pref., 16s. 3d., 15s. 10½d.; Ilford, 24s. 4½d.; *Illustrated London News*, 4s. 6d., 5s., Pref., 12s. 9d., 13s., 1s. Deb., 54½; International Linotype, 57; Lamson Paragon Supply, 23s. 1½d., f.p., 21s. 3d., Pref., 14s. 9d.; Linotype, A Deb., 64, B Deb., 56½; Edward Lloyd, 14s. 10½d.; Charles Marsden, 30s. 3d., Pref., 21s. 1½d., 21s. 4½d.; George Newnes, 13s. 9d., Pref., 12s. 6d.; New Pegasus, 24s. 6d.; C. A. Pearson, Pref., 64s. 4½d., 57s. 6d.; Pictorial Newspapers, 7 p.c. Cum. Ord., 17s. 9d., 17s. 3d., 5 p.c. Cum. Pref., 13s. 9d., 13s.; Roneo, 40s. 3d.; Sunday Pictorial Newspapers (1920), 8 p.c. Cum. Pref., 18s. 6d., 18s. 1½d.; *Times* Publishing, 5 p.c. Cum. Pref., 14s. 6d., 14s. 9d.; Raphael Tuck, 20s. 4½d., Pref., 70s.; Wall-paper Manufacturers, 21s. 9d., 22s., Def., 22s. 1½d., 21s. 9d., 22s. 7½d., Pref., 14s. 6d.; Waterlow and Sons, Def., 19s.; Weldon's, 34s. 4½d., Pref., 14s.; Wiggins, Teape and Co. (1919), f.p., 28s. 9d., 28s. 6d., 7 p.c. Cum. Pref., f.p., 19s. 6d., 19s. 4½d.; Wyman and Sons, Pref., 13s. 9d.

NEW COMPANIES.

BRITISH COLOUR PRINTING Co. (1920), LTD.—Capital, £40,000, in £1 shares (20,000 pref.) Lithographic and letterpress printers, publishers, etc. Subscribers: J. F. Roberts, and G. Lloyd. Private company. Managing director, J. F. Roberts. Registered office, 56, Ludgate-hill, E.C.

NOISELESS TYPEWRITER Co., INCORPORATED.—Capital stock, \$1,500,000 in in \$100 shares (10,000 common stock and 5,000 deferred stock). Registered in State of Connecticut, U.S.A. British address, 3 and 4, St. Paul's churchyard, E.C., where W. J. McNab is authorised to accept service.

H. R. DANFORD AND SONS, LTD.—Capital, £20,000, in £1 shares. Wholesale manufacturing stationers, book and vellum binders, machine rulers, numerical printers and perforators. Private company. First directors: H. R. Danford, and R. Danford. Registered office, 5, 6 and 7, Singer-street, Finsbury, E.C.

JAMES DINSDALE, LTD.—Capital, £3,000, in £1 shares. Printers, lithographers, publishers, account book manufacturers, etc. Private company. First directors: H. H. Dinsdale, H. Dinsdale, Miss A. Dinsdale, Miss E. Dinsdale. Registered office, 12, New Station-street.

H. E. PALMER, LTD.—Capital, £2,000, in £1 shares. Advertising and general publicity contractors, agents and consultants, etc. Subscribers: H. E. Palmer, and P. H. Wardlaw. Private company. Registered office, 32, Exchange-street, Sheffield.

GEORGE DAVIN AND SON, LTD.—Registered in Dublin. Capital £25,000 in £1 shares. Box-makers. Private company. The first directors are: G. Davin, G. F. Davin, A. J. Davin and T. Davin. Registered office: 21, Aubrey-street, Derry.

LEITCH, MCINTYRE AND Co., LTD.—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital £10,000, in £1 shares. Wholesale and export stationers, paper shaving manufacturers, printers, lithographers, stereotypers, photographic printers, etc. Private company. First directors: G. Leitch and A. Kyd. Registered office: 177, West George-street, Glasgow.

LEISTON ABBEY PRESS, LTD.—Capital, £2,000, in £1 shares. Printers, publishers, etc. Private company. First directors: W. P. Fisher, C. Hardy, G. P. Reveirs, F. E. Walker and A. H. Thurston. Registered office: 15, High-street, Leiston, Suffolk.

LANE, HOLMES AND SMITH, LTD.—Capital, £8,000, in £1 shares. Designers and engravers of copper and steel plates, die-sinkers, makers of seals for companies, etc. Private company. First directors: J. Lane, F. W. Lane, G. A. Holmes and A. T. Smith. Registered office: 28, Queen-street, Manchester.

BAKER AND BOND, LTD.—Capital, £5,000, in £1 shares. Publishers, proprietors and printers of musical compositions, songs, operas, plays, newspapers, journals, magazines, etc. Private company. Subscribers: W. C. Williams and A. G. Bounden. Registered office: 182, Wardour-street, W.1.

RICHARD KENDRICK AND SON, LTD.—Capital, £8,000, in £1 shares. Embossers, heraldic chasers, casters, platers, stampers, piercers, metal workers, etc. Private company. First directors: R. G. P. Kendrick, Emily Kendrick and G. H. Sherratt. Registered office: Camden Works, Corporation-street, Walsall.

NORTHUMBERLAND AND BERWICKSHIRE NEWSPAPERS, LTD.—Registered in Edinburgh; capital, £3,000, in £1 shares; newspaper proprietors, printers and publishers, etc. Private company. First directors: A. Steven and Mary W. Steven. Registered office: 23, Rutland-square, Edinburgh.

VASE PRESS, LTD.—Capital, £5,000, in £1 shares (2,500 pref.); general printers and bookbinders. Private company. First directors: E. S. Bond, D. C. Taylor and P. Wallis.

D. WOOD-BOYD AND CO., LTD.—Capital, £5,000, in £1 shares; tinplate decorators, crystalisers, printers, stationers, etc. Private company. First directors: D. C. Boyd and D. Wood-Boyd. Registered office: 44-48, Croft-street, Deptford.

STAPLEFORDS, LTD.—Capital, £20,000, in £1 shares (5,000 pref.); wholesale stationers and paper and paper bag merchants and manufacturers. Private company. First directors: H. à C. Bergne, G. D. Stapleford, H. H. Roe and F. G. White. Registered office: Marshall Paper Works, Marshall-street, Southwark, S.E.

BEN JOHNSON AND CO., LTD.—Capital £75,000, in £1 shares (20,000 pref.); printers, publishers, engravers, designers, stationers, bookbinders, etc. Private company. Permanent governing directors: C. B. Johnson and G. Y. Johnson. Registered office: 14, Micklegate, York.

SCOTTISH SHALE OIL SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION.—Registered in Edinburgh; objects include printing, publishing, acquiring and circulating books, papers, periodicals and gazettes, bearing upon the shale oil trade. First directors: W. Fraser, J. Bryson, E. M. Bailey, A. C. Thomson, J. G. Annan and G. F. McKillop. Registered office: 135, Buchanan-street, Glasgow.

COMPANY MORTGAGES AND CHARGES.

Fresh Obligations registered pursuant to Section 10 of the Companies Act, 1907, and Satisfaction registered pursuant to Section 16 of the Companies Act, 1900. (The registration of Satisfaction is not compulsory.)

SHARP BROTHERS (PRINTERS) LTD.—Mortgage charged on certain land and premises in Evesham, dated March 22nd, 1920, to secure all moneys due or to become due from company to Lloyds Bank, Ltd.

HUGHES TRELEAVEN, LTD. (manufacturers of printing and other works, Liverpool).—Mortgage dated March 25th, 1920, to secure £2,000, charged on 50, Duke-street, Liverpool, and land forming site thereof. Holder: T. Wood, Queen-square, Liverpool.

W. SPEAIGHT AND SONS, LTD. (printers, London).—Charge on Temple Works, Cursitor-street, E.C., dated March 19th, 1920, to secure all moneys due or to become due from company to London Joint City and Midland Bank, Ltd.

BOURNEMOUTH "GUARDIAN," LTD.—Mortgage dated March 17th, 1920, to secure £2,000, charged on 172, Commercial-road, Bournemouth. Holder: H. C. Godwin, Durweston, Dorset.

"DAILY HERALD," LTD.—Trust deed dated March 25th, 1920, to secure £400,000 first and £100,000 second mortgage debentures charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. Trustees: Rt. Hon. A. Henderson, M.P., F. Hodges, J.P., and Rt. Hon. J. H. Thomas, M.P.

STAR PAPER MILL CO., LTD. (Feniscowles near Blackburn).—Satisfaction in full on March 3rd, 1920, of trust deed dated July 29th, 1901, securing £40,000.

RICHMOND HILL PRINTING WORKS, LTD. (Bournemouth).—Satisfaction to the extent of £2,000 between July 7th, 1919, and January 2nd, 1920, of debentures dated November 10th, 1909, securing £3,000.

HENRY DETLOFF, LTD. (newspaper proprietors, London).—Satisfaction in full on March 19th, 1920, of debentures dated October 5th, 1897, and February 20th, 1901, securing £1,000 and £1,100 respectively.

H. T. WOODROW AND CO., LTD. (stationers, Liverpool).—Satisfaction to the extent of £3,460 on March 26th, 1920, of debentures dated February 19th, 1917, securing £4,890.

J. ROBERTSON AND CO., LTD. (printers, St. Anne's-on-Sea).—Mortgage dated March 15th, 1920, to secure £6,804, charged on certain land and premises at St. Anne's-on-Sea. Holders: Halifax Permanent Benefit Building Society. Satisfaction in full on March 13th, 1920, of mortgage dated March 1st, 1919, securing £907 4s. and further advances also notified.

W. WESTALL AND CO., LTD. (publishers, London).—Particulars of £3,500 debentures, authorised March 9th, 1920, whole amount issued; charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. No trustees.

EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, LTD. (printers, London).—Mortgage dated March 31st, 1920, to secure £3,750; charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital, subject to prior indenture and agreement. Holders: Thomas Nelson and Sons, Ltd., Edinburgh.

ALLEN STRONG AND CO., LTD. (paper merchants, London).—Charge on 17, Bread-street-hill, E.C., dated March 15th, 1920, to secure all moneys due or to become due from company to London County, Westminster and Parr's Bank, Ltd.

NINETEENTH CENTURY AND AFTER, LTD. (printers, publishers and proprietors and journals, London).—Two first and two second debentures all dated March 18th, 1920, to secure £1,500, £500, £1,000 and £500 respectively; charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. Holders: Miss L. L. Arnold Taylor, Porch House, Colehill, Amersham, Bucks, and others.

Gazette.

Paper Box Wages.

A WORD OF CAUTION.

In giving the official Gazette information, it must be distinctly understood that we take official records as we find them, and accept no responsibility for inaccuracies, while, as an almost invariable rule, the facts will be found correct. We advise our readers, before forming hasty judgment, to consider that there may be in each case satisfactory explanation which does not appear on the records.—Ed.]

ENGLAND AND WALES.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Price William Almond and Edward Woodhall, printers, Victoria-street, West Bromwich, Staffs., under style "Almond and Woodhall." March 31st, 1920.

Alfred Ernest Wilson and James Newton, wholesale stationers and dealers in electric accessories, 65, Market-street, Manchester, under the style "Wilson and Newton." April 8th. Debts by A. E. Wilson, who continues.

Openings for British Trade, etc.

Inquiries have been received by the Department of Overseas Trade (Development and Intelligence), 4, Queen Anne's Gate-buildings, London, S.W.1, to whom further inquiries should be addressed with the reference number quoted.

CANADA.

A manufacturers' agent in Calgary, Alberta, desires to represent United Kingdom suppliers of stationers' sundries, inks, etc., for Western Canada. (Reference No. 468)

SOUTH AFRICA.

A Cape Town firm of paste and polish manufacturers are seeking agencies for lines which can be carried with their labelling paste, such as inks and other stationers' sundries. (Reference No. 477.)

BRAZIL.

A United Kingdom firm of manufacturers' agents having their own branch in Buenos Aires and making frequent visits to Rio de Janeiro and other Brazilian ports, are desirous of representing United Kingdom manufacturers of printing and writing papers. (Reference No. 494.)

GUATEMALA.

H.M. Vice-Consul at Guatemala City reports that a commission agent desires connections, with a view to the introduction of British art productions into Guatemala. (Reference No. 545).

MR. GEO. P. FLEMING, of Drimnagh Paper Mills, has been placed on the Commission of the Peace for the Borough of Dublin.

Agreement Between Employers and the Union.

An agreement has recently been arrived at between the British Paper Box Manufacturers' Federation and the National Union of Printing and Paper Workers covering certain increases in wages and other industrial conditions. The agreement, except as to the payment for holidays, takes effect as from March 22nd, or at the beginning of the next full pay period, but in any case not later than March 26th.

The agreement provides that the minimum rate of wages to be paid to machine-minders, die-makers, forme setters, cutters (including shears and guillotine) and head stock-keepers shall be as follows:—At 18 and under 19 years of age, 9½d. per hour, 36s. 6d. per week; 19 and under 20, 10½d. per hour, 42s. 6d. per week; 20 and under 21, 11½d. per hour, 46s. 6d. per week; 21 and under 22, 12½d. per hour, 50s. 6d. per week; 22 and under 23, 13½d. per hour, 54s. 6d. per week; 23 years of age and over, 14½d. per hour, 58s. 6d. per week.

In the case of male workers entering the trade for the first time at the age of 21 years and over as machine minders, die-makers, forme setters, cutters (including shears and guillotine) or head stock-keepers the minimum rates of wages are as follows:—During the first 12 months of service, 1s. 2½d. per hour, 56s. 6d. per week; second 12 months, 1s. 3½d. per hour, 61s. 6d. per week; third 12 months, 1s. 5½d. per hour, 68s. 6d. per week; after three years' service, 1s. 7½d. per hour, 76s. 6d. per week.

The normal hours specified in the agreement are 48 hours per week, and provision is made for payment for all Bank Holidays and for Good Friday, and for one week's holiday per annum to all workers who have been in the employment for a period of six consecutive months prior to June 30th in each year.

The provision relating to wages, working hours, and overtime rates are to be submitted to the Paper Box Trade Board (Great Britain) to be fixed and made effective. This is the first time in the history of the Paper Box trade that skilled men have had a minimum arranged for them, and the national minimum of 76s. 6d. for all grades has given considerable satisfaction to the employees. The agreement is signed on behalf of the Federation by Mr. W. Culross (Chairman), and Mr. C. J. Healy (Secretary), and on behalf of the National Union of Printing and Paper Workers by Mr. H. Chalk (President) and Mr. T. G. Newland (General Secretary).

MR. JAMES SMITH, who acted as secretary of the Paper Control Department, Board of Trade, and Mr. Wilfrid F. Macdonald, chief engineer, Messrs. Spicer and Sons, Ltd., have been given the honour of Membership of the Order of the British Empire.

John Dickinson and Co., Ltd.

Presentation to Mr. Alec Smith.

This month Mr. Alec Smith severed his connection as head engineer of Croxley Mills to take up the important position of chief engineer at Bass's Brewery, Burton.

Mr. Smith has been a successful paper mill engineer, and is a typical example of those Scottish engineers who have been so prominent as working chiefs in industries. He commenced work with the Guardbridge Paper Co., and eventually became chief engineer in mills in this country and in India. Five and a-half years ago he left Ford Works, Sunderland, for Croxley, where he earned the respect and goodwill of everybody by his excellent work, his pleasant manner, and his thoughtfulness for his colleagues and employees.

The regard entertained for Mr. Smith was expressed on April 9th by Mr. John Wilson, the chief papermaker, in the dining hall at Croxley Mills. A large crowd assembled to witness the presentation to the retiring engineer of a handsome writing desk suitably engraved and subscribed for by the mill employees.

Mr. A. Beck, of the engineering department, presided, and asked Mr. Wilson, in the absence of the mills manager, to make the presentation. Mr. Wilson expressed the opinion of all, in an excellent speech, regretting Mr. Smith's departure, and wishing him every success in his new sphere of work.

Mr. Smith thanked his friends warmly for their token of regard, and was accorded musical honours on conclusion.

Lamson Paragon Supply.

The seventeenth ordinary general meeting of the Lamson Paragon Supply Co., Ltd., was held on the 14th inst, Mr. Stephen Herring presiding.

The chairman in the course of his remarks on the balance sheet pointed out that the capital account has been increased by 9,171 preference shares, being the purchase price of the shares and debentures of the Victory Web Printing Machine Co., Ltd., an old-established printing engineering business in Liverpool, and by 203,541 ordinary shares, being the shares issued in October of last year. Interesting also was a reference to the extension of the company's retail shops. The chairman mentioned that during the past year retail shops had been opened in Cheapside, London, in Liverpool and in Bristol, and by these means they were able to offer the company's products conveniently and economically to many customers whom their representatives were unable to reach.

An Advertisement is always working.

The H.C.C. Golf Challenge Trophy.

A Happy Revival.

The golf trophies which in the peaceful years before the war were fought for so eagerly among members of the paper trade provided many occasions for agreeable reunions on courses throughout the country. These trophies, one of which was won outright in 1902 by Mr. W. D. Davidson, was provided out of the generosity of Messrs. Henderson, Craig and Co., Ltd., the well-known pulp agents. The trophy which is still to be won is a handsome silver vase, 18 inches in height and weighing 104 oz. Its artistic merit may be gathered from the fact that it was exhibited at the Paris Exhibition of 1900 as an example of English chased work, and cost about £60.

The Henderson, Craig competitions commenced in 1895 and were a popular feature in the following years until the war caused most pleasures to be suspended. Now there is a widely-expressed desire among paper-makers that the challenge should be revived, and Messrs. Henderson, Craig and Co. are making arrangements for the competition to be resumed this year. According to the conditions laid down, the games must be played under the St. Andrews' Rules, having regard for any local rule. The trophy becomes the absolute property of any competitor winning it four times, which, as indicated above, occurred in the case of Mr. Davidson. There is thus a great incentive to win, added to which is the pleasure of meeting friends and the sport of the game. Golfers of the paper and allied trades are indebted to Messrs. Henderson, Craig and Co. for providing the rallying point.

Lithuanian Duties.

Under the Tariff Regulations at present in force in Lithuania, stationery and printed matter, pictures and free-hand drawings, without frames (except office books), and picture prints, are exempt from import duty. Clay of various kinds, gypsum, cement, chalk, talc, graphite and asphalt, rags, starch (including potato starch), are dutiable on import at the rate of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*. Playing cards are subject to import duty at the rate of 20 per cent. *ad valorem*.

An export duty is temporarily levied on wrapping paper at the rate of 3 marks per kilog. and miscellaneous rags are subject to a temporary duty of 36 marks per kilog.

WRITING materials, paper and cardboard were imported into Peru from the United Kingdom during the years mentioned as follows:—1913, £21,501; 1914, £16,667; 1915, £12,640; 1916, £26,265; 1917, £33,369; 1918, £28,470.

Printing, Bookbinding & Kindred TRADES OVERSEERS' ASSOCIATION.

Lecture on the Federation Costing System.

Members turned up in full force at the monthly meeting of the Association held on Tuesday evening the 13th inst., at St. Bride Institute, Mr. A. J. Daines (president) and Mr. A. W. Hunt (vice-president) officiating. The principal item on the agenda was an address on "Costing" by Mr. A. Williamson, F.C.W.A., secretary of the Costing and Charges Committee of the Federation of Master Printers. In the discussion following the lecture some candid criticism of the Costing System was offered by several members.

The general secretary (Mr. Geo. A. Eden) read the minutes of the last monthly meeting, which were duly confirmed.

A letter was read from the widow of the late Mr. F. C. Cordingley, expressing her thanks to the association for its interest on her behalf.

A new member, Mr. F. S. Pocock (works manager, Messrs. Chas. Letts), received from the Chairman on behalf of the Association a warm welcome to membership.

Mr. Williamson, who was received with very cordial applause, said he was delighted at having the opportunity of addressing such a large gathering, especially when that opportunity brought him into contact with men who were actually dealing with print from its practical and management side. He would have failed in his object if he did not elicit from them a very severe cross-examination.

Cost and its Estimation.

"What is cost?" asked Mr. Williamson. "Cost is the wages involved in the job produced, the value of the material upon which the operations are performed, and the equitable proportion of the expenses of the business." How can anyone, proceeded Mr. Williamson, allocate the correct proportion of labour and material and expenses without some definite system which provides the machinery for carrying through the details necessary, and which also provides the means whereby you can price the work you have done? Mr. Williamson claimed that each of the three items he had mentioned as coming into the cost of a job fell naturally into two parts: (a) Labour—productive and non-productive; (b) material—chargeable and non-chargeable; (c) expenses—that which can and cannot be traced to a department.

There was no system of arriving at cost that answered the requirements as did the Federation Costing System, continued the lecturer. It proceeds on scientific lines, and every expense is dealt with. A business is taken and divided into as many parts as necessary, and in some cases they departmentalise departments. Mr. Williamson next explained how the system dealt with rent, rates and taxes, lighting, fire

insurance, workmen's compensation, power, etc. Another item (often overlooked) came under the heading of departmental sundries, and included oil, waste, cleansers, chemicals, proof paper, page cord, etc. The lecturer explained in detail how the System arrived at the cost of production, and said there must also be some machinery to show the proportion of time taken to produce the work.

Time Recording.

It was necessary, continued Mr. Williamson, there must be some means to record the time taken on a job, and that should be done by the daily docket. The job cost-sheet should not pass round the works with the job. It had been proved in numberless cases where job cost-sheets accompanied the work that the number of hours entered up did not tally with the number of hours that had been paid for.

In reference to the introduction of the Costing System the speaker went on to explain that he believed it was in the minds of many overseers that the System would be the means of removing from them some of their responsibilities. His idea of an overseer was that he was not a clerk, but was there to get production. To do that he should understand the temperament of every man under his control, and know the kinks in every man's disposition. There was greater interest being displayed in the System than ever before, and Mr. Williamson, in conclusion, thought that instead of weakening the overseer's position it gave him more strength by the knowledge he could secure. The installation of the Costing System invariably removes certain work from the factory to the clerical side of the business. That would be no detriment to the overseer, providing he had access to the statements entered recording the costs of his department.

DISCUSSION.

Mr. G. A. Rutherford, in opening the discussion, asked whether, in handling paper in the machine department the labour involved would be chargeable to the machine department or to the warehouse.

Mr. Williamson said in a large business most decidedly the labour should be under the control of the machine manager, and be chargeable to the machine department.

Mr. R. E. Latimer referred to the difficulty of the docket system in a foundry where there might probably be a dozen men engaged on different processes. He contended that you could not apply the docket system to get the actual cost, but that you could only arrive at the average cost and then apply it to the hourly rate.

Mr. Williamson, in reply, said in the case of the foundry, where there were seeming difficulties at arriving at actual cost, he would introduce the docket system and departmentalise the department. He would keep certain men on certain operations. To find the cost of the job he would get the output of the stereos and electros and sell them out to the firm by the square inch for new work, and charge up as many operations as possible on

a time basis. Difficult as this question was it could be surmounted.

Mr. Chris. Atkins remarked that in the advocacy of the Costing System it was always the habit of applying it to the easiest of departments, *i.e.*, to the compositors and machine-room. But in regard to the binding department, where there were so many different operations in the work, he thought it impossible to estimate the cost of jobs on the docket system. Again, the men did not like the docket, they thought it would be used against themselves.

Mr. Williamson said he was convinced that a very different spirit was rapidly coming over the employers with regard to the docket. When you get the willingness of the men to record on the docket the time taken on certain operations the difficulties of cost-finding would be solved. He gave an outline of a method of dealing with the peculiarities of the binding department.

The Men and the Dockets.

Mr. W. Robinson referred also to the unpopularity of the docket system among the men. In a time department the smarter man would, he believed, be compelled by his union to reduce his speed to the limit of the slower man.

Mr. Williamson replied that he was given to understand that the unions were opposed to restriction of output. Human nature being what it is it will always struggle to be superior, and his experience was that where the docket system had been introduced, and where the employees gave it assistance, output was increased and not decreased.

Mr. F. Arnott expressed similar views regarding the docket.

Mr. A. W. Hunt, in moving a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Williamson for his lecture, said he thought by the introduction of the Costing System the energies of the overseer would be more concentrated on the supervision of the work under his charge. He thanked the lecturer heartily for his elaboration of the scientific Costing System of the master printers.

Mr. Arnott seconded the motion, which was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Williamson briefly replied, and the meeting terminated.

Replies to Box Nos. to be addressed to the Offices,
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SITUATIONS VACANT, REPRESENTATIVES or MANAGERS REQUIRING POSITIONS, AGENCIES, BUSINESSES WANTED or FOR DISPOSAL, MACHINERY and MISCELLANEOUS.—Charges for Advertisements of the above class are Three Shillings for 21 Words or under; One Shilling extra for every line or portion after. Seven Words to be reckoned for each line.

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Miscellaneous.

GOOD BOOK PRINTINGS for sale, from stock; also 74 by 98 M.G. Kraft.—Loveitt, Paper Merchant, 5, Grosvenor-road, Bradford, Yorkshire. 13728

MR. GLEN STEEL, Agent for Jubb's Metals and for Roberts' Numbering Machines (Continental Department) is about to leave for a short visit to New York, but expects to return and resume, in June, his calls on Printers and Stereotypers. Meantime all communications to 64, Chancery-lane, London, will receive careful attention. 13747

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Some especially rich covers in books of the Gospels are ornamented with gold or silver threads, as well as cut rock crystal or other semi-precious stones. At the epoch of Roman art these covers of the Gospel books for the altars were ornamented almost exclusively with cloisonné enamel or in relief, while at the period of Gothic art we find on the middle panels, always a little sunk in, much ivory carving, especially of the scenes of the Passion, quite in the style of the diptychs and triptychs of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries.

The old Spanish libraries are almost entirely composed of books bound in smooth parchment, quite without gilding, the titles being written in large Gothic letters along the back. For what concerns the private libraries of the King of France, the books which belonged to the Valois are much esteemed and dearly paid. A Greek or Roman classic from the collection of Diane de Poitiers is a precious rarity. Books bearing the arms of owners of libraries and bibliophiles like Cardinal Richelieu, Archbishop de Harley, Cardinal Mazarin, the Minister Colbert, the historian De Thou, etc., down to the Marquis de Pompadour and others, are also favourites.

Threatened Embargo on Book Paper.

It is stated by the Washington correspondent of the *Board of Trade Journal*, N.Y., that if some book paper manufacturers do not soon come to the rescue of the Government Printing Office, it is possible that Congress will be asked to put an embargo on the exportation of book paper. It is understood that the printing office has been refused quotations at any price on book paper which is needed by the Government.

Paper and Cardboard.

Imports into the United Kingdom during March.

Total imports of paper and cardboard into the United Kingdom for March, and for the same month of 1919 and 1913 were as follows:—

TOTAL IMPORTS.			
March, 1920	873,290 cwt.	£2,070,391	
" 1919	269,789 "	566,041	
" 1913	989,922 "	578,030	

Details of the imports for last month are as under:—

PRINTING AND WRITING PAPER IN LARGE SHEETS.			
Sweden	42,425 cwt.	£66,475	
Norway	58,376 "	131,108	
Germany	7,130 "	23,314	
Belgium	1,753 "	3,820	
U.S.A.	12,481 "	31,500	
Newfoundland	7,000 "	19,600	
Other Countries	90,705 "	160,997	
Totals	219,870 "	436,814	

PACKING AND WRAPPING, INCLUDING TISSUE PAPER.			
Russia	20,561 cwt.	£56,751	
Sweden	250,196 "	623,823	
Norway	100,470 "	282,054	
Germany	20,171 "	42,084	
Belgium	6,433 "	28,319	
Other Countries	16,097 "	49,897	
Totals	414,537 "	1,084,728	

COATED PAPERS.			
Germany	1,077 cwt.	£3,269	
Belgium	4,420 "	25,588	
France	874 "	9,155	
U.S.A.	525 "	5,481	
Other Countries	3,994 "	11,831	
Totals	10,890 "	55,324	

OTHER IMPORTS.			
Stationery	1,321 cwt.	£8,248	
Mill, Leather, Card and Pasteboard	143,412 "	249,147	
Strawboards	43,094 "	36,340	
Other Sorts	40,166 "	199,790	

BELGIUM Prohibits Export of News-Print.

The *Moniteur Belge* for March 1st and 2nd contains a Decree of the Belgian Ministry of Economic Affairs, dated February 27th, which forbids the export of news-print paper except under licence.

British Paper and Cardboard.

Exports during March.

The total exports of British paper and cardboard during March of this and the preceding year and also for 1913 were as under:—

TOTAL EXPORTS.

March, 1920	163,773 cwt.	£772,764
" 1919	55,266 "	£59,837
" 1913	282,791 "	£310,904

The exports for March last, with countries in supply in some cases, fall under the following headings:—

PRINTING, NOT COATED.

	Cwts.	£
France	8,022	32,101
United States	866	7,529
Other Foreign Countries	18,133	72,582
British South Africa	3,923	14,539
British India	17,667	52,489
Straits Settlements	1,014	3,522
Ceylon	1,388	4,763
Australia	7,506	27,253
New Zealand	2,880	9,543
Canada	423	1,894
Other British Possessions	4,624	16,251

Totals—Mar., 1920	66,446	242,466
" 1919	21,740	103,850
" 1913	160,403	150,659

WRITING PAPER IN LARGE SHEETS.

	Cwts.	£
France	2,022	10,027
United States	91	950
Other Foreign Countries	3,981	23,704
British South Africa	359	2,424
British India	5,427	25,252
Straits Settlements	197	1,508
Ceylon	153	999
Australia	5,379	24,680
New Zealand	580	2,679
Canada	—	—
Other British Possessions	722	4,701

Totals—Mar., 1920	18,911	96,924
" 1919	14,126	100,267
" 1913	19,599	38,661

PACKING AND WRAPPING AND TISSUE.

	Cwts.	£
Packing and Wrapping	27,028	57,425
Tissue	1,568	18,453

COATED PAPERS.

	Cwts.	£
Printed and Embossed Paperhangings	13,514	74,813
Other Sorts, except Waterproof Wrappings and Sensitised Photographic Paper	2,201	32,682

ROOFING PAPER.

	Cwts.	£
Tarred and other	707	1,016

STATIONERY.

	Cwts.	£
Envelopes, not including Boxed Stationery	3,943	24,998
Other Sorts	11,340	129,862

BOXES AND BOARDS, ETC.

	Cwts.	£
Paper Bags	3,670	12,432
Boxes and Cartons, including Folding Boxes	1,768	9,019
Mill, Straw and Cardboard, etc.	6,838	26,961
Playing Cards	200	4,021

OTHER MANUFACTURES OF PAPER (NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED).

	Cwts.	£
France	584	2,072
United States	86	1,582
Other Foreign Countries	1,867	15,403
British South Africa	757	4,479
British East Indies	860	6,383
Australia	814	5,835
New Zealand	190	1,668
Canada	66	761
Other British Possessions	355	3,109

Totals—Mar., 1920	5,579	41,692
" 1919	3,828	30,728
" 1913	6,168	15,072

Canadian News-Print Supplies.

Important Court Decision.

An important decision was given recently in the Supreme Court at Ottawa affecting supplies of news-print. It was held by the Court that newspapers do not constitute a necessity of life, and consequently the Dominion Board of Commerce had no power to compel manufacturers of news-print to furnish supplies to the Canadian Press at fixed prices.

Canadian newspaper proprietors were paying \$80 per ton for paper, and as a result of this judgment they may have to pay from \$90 to \$100 per ton.

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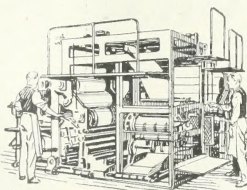
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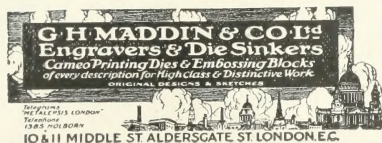
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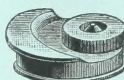
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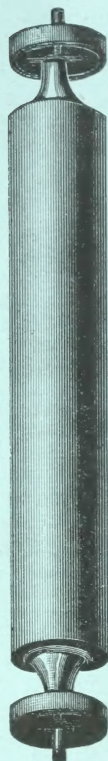
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